

HAPPENINGS in the BIG CITIES

Going to Rehabilitate Soviet Russia



NEWARK, N. J.—The 57 men and 11 women who left America for soviet concessions in Siberia have reached Riga, Latvia. The party is headed by Dr. William Mahler of Newark. In the party is William A. Vanhoffen, a consulting engineer of Chicago, a Russian who has lived in the United States 18 years. There are nine other engineers, the remainder of the men being miners from Arizona, Montana, California, Pennsylvania, and farmers, chiefly from the Dakotas, Washington and Oregon.

Doctor Mahler and Vanhoffen said in Riga that this party was merely the vanguard of 6,000 to 7,000 others in America who are coming to Russia as soon as arrangements can be completed. Of this contingent, each person put

up \$300 or more to cover the expenses of the trip. In Riga the travelers stayed at the best hotels and purchased great quantities of seed grain.

Each member signed up to remain in Russia two years, and if he is dissatisfied at the end of that time he may return to America with all expenses paid and, in addition, receive a certain allowance for his labor.

In a statement given out by Vanhoffen, it was set forth that the plan is to strike directly at the heart of Russia's industrial problem, the lack of skilled workers and machinery, by importing them direct from the United States. They are to operate coal mines in the Kuznets basin and the Nadejdenki steel plant in the Ural mountains region.

The contingent was made up of Russians, Finns, Czechoslovaks, Germans, Scandinavians, Hungarians, Jews and Irish, all of whom have lived in the United States several years, and several native-born Americans from various parts of the country. There was one three-month-old baby brought by its father and mother.

The party had clothing for several years and four carloads of American food.

How Sophie Lyons Burke Beat the Game

DETROIT.—"She didn't stand a show. The cards were stacked against her at birth. She entered life by a crooked path. Her stepmother was a receiver of stolen goods. She played on the sidewalks of an unspeakable street. When she was old enough they sent her out as a shop-lifter, and in time she married a crackman and became an international criminal. But Sophie Lyons beat the game. She bucked the odds and won—triumphant over environment, ancestry and rearing—turned the past into a doormat, wiped the mud off her feet and took the clean, straight road."

This, in brief, is the summing up of the marvelous career of Sophie Lyons Burke, who "turned to the right" to such good effect that the story of her rise from a career of crime, which had made her familiar with the cells of 50 prisons, to wealthy real estate operator and substantial citizen of Detroit, has been deemed worthy of the leading place in Success Magazine.

Forty years ago Sophie Lyons, famous as an international crook, decided crime was a losing game—that it did not pay. Today as Mrs. Sophie Lyons Burke, the property she has accumulated is assessed at a trifle over



a million dollars for taxable purposes, and Mrs. Burke, a spry, active business woman, has a substantial position in her community.

She was first the wife of Ned Lyons, a well-known safecracker, and later married Billy Burke, a reformed confidence man. She began the work of building up her fortune as clerk in a real estate office at \$10 a week. Several years later, when she decided to go into business for herself, this had increased to \$300 weekly.

At an age when most women would be glad to sit back and let others manage their business affairs, she looks after her own business, collects rents, makes repairs, buys, sells and attends to all the details of her business. She owns 40 houses, which are rented all the time.

Bearded Like the Gold-Hunters of '49



SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—At the opening of the recent celebration here of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the coming of Capt. John A. Sutter, founder of the city, Gov. William D. Stephens addressed his words not to a "sea of faces" but to a "forest of whiskers." And now the question is: "How many of the beards will stay?"

You see, the Forty-niners all wore beards because they couldn't take the time from picking out nuggets to shave. So, for the celebration all the men grew beards by decree of a "Kangaroo Court," which enforced its decree. Before this court the wretched shavelings were dragged by the city police, sheriff's deputies and volunteers. Males of whiskerable age found in the street with smooth chins were seized and sometimes handcuffed.

Eddie Is in Bad With His Stepmother

CHICAGO.—An injunction restraining his aged stepmother, Mrs. Minnie Kaul, 2524 North Francisco avenue, from "shrieking, carrying on, hollering, rapping furniture with her cane, or otherwise molesting him" was granted Edward F. Kaul, wealthy glue manufacturer, living at 108 East Delaware place, by Judge Ira Ryner.

According to the petition, the senior Mrs. Kaul, now nearly seventy-five, was the second wife of the late Adolph Kaul, who died several years ago, leaving an estate estimated at over \$1,000,000.

Kaul's son inherited the entire estate. The admission of the will to probate was bitterly fought by the widow. In an effort to avoid further litigation Kaul entered into an agreement whereby the income from a major portion of the estate was settled on the widow during her lifetime. Recently she has persisted in charging that Kaul has mismanaged her "interest" in the estate.



Visits to the Kaul home by the stepmother are described in the petition for the injunction, which asserts that the stepmother is endangering the life of Kaul's wife, who is in poor health.

The petition charges that the aged woman, in her anger, has destroyed furniture by "rapping with her cane," and has caused the neighborhood to stand aghast, while she holds forth on the street below the apartment, shrieking "vile and opprobrious epithets at her steps on."

DAMAGE DONE TO GRAIN BY MOTHS

Insects Can Be Destroyed by Use of Heat or by Fumigation With Poisonous Gases.

CARBON DISULPHID IS BEST

By Exercising Proper Precautions Infestations in Field Can Be Reduced—Thoroughly Clean Old Bins and Granaries.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Most of the damage done by insects to grain in storage and shipment is due to four species, the granary weevil, the rice or black weevil, the lesser grain borer or Australian weevil, and the Angoumois grain moth, according to Farmers' Bulletin 1200, "Common Grain Pests," prepared by E. A. Back and R. T. Cotton and just published by the United States Department of Agriculture. Others of the 40 species or groups of species described in the bulletin can cause great damage if storage conditions are unusually favorable for their increase.

Remedial measures are mentioned only briefly in the bulletin. The insects, it is said, can be destroyed by the use of heat, or by fumigation with poisonous gases. A temperature of 120 degrees to 130 degrees, Fahrenheit, maintained for a short time, will kill all stages of grain-infesting insects, without injury to the germinating qualities of the grain. Carbon disulphid, carbon tetrachlorid and hydrocyanic acid gas are the fumigants in most common use today in treating infested grain. Of these, carbon disulphid is the best for treating grain in the bulk, it is said. Information on this subject is contained in other publications of the department.

Prevent Infestation. Infestation of grain in the field cannot be entirely prevented, but, by proper precautions, it can be reduced to a minimum, the bulletin points out. The first generation of insects in the maturing grain is usually small, and if the grain is cut as soon as ripe, threshed as soon as dry, and then placed in clean, deep bins, the damage from this source will be slight.

It is when the grain is left in the field long after it is ripe that serious infestation results, for the insects increase in one or two generations to enormous numbers. In the case of corn in the field, only ears damaged through carelessness in shucking, so



Tip End of Ear of Corn Showing Round Holes in Kernels Made by the Angoumois Grain Moth.

that the kernels are exposed, are subject to the attack of grain insects. Farmers should therefore, it is said, grow a variety of corn that develops a long, tight shuck.

Newly harvested small grain should not be stored unthrashed for any length of time, as in this condition it is very susceptible to infestation. If promptly thrashed and stored in deep bins, only a thin layer on top of the bin is likely to become infested. Corn may be stored in the shuck if the husk is long and tight and fully covers the tip, but all ears with loose, broken, short or damaged husks should be shucked and stored separately.

Avoid Dirty Bins. Clean grain should never be stored in old bins, granaries or storehouses until they have been thoroughly cleaned and freed from the accumulations of waste grain and other materials harboring grain insects.

Bags of all kinds that have previously held grain should not be allowed in granaries or warehouses or be refilled until they have been sterilized or otherwise freed from insects. The use of tight cribs will keep the grain free from infestation by insects that might fly in from the outside.

Copies of the bulletin may be had free upon application to the department at Washington.

BEST DEPTH OF CULTIVATION

When Corn Is Eighteen Inches High Roots Will Meet Across 3½-Foot Row in Friable Soil.

When the stalks of corn are 18 inches high, the roots have met across a 3½-foot row in light, friable soils. Deep cultivation at this time will cut many of the roots and check the growth of the plants. A good rule to follow is to cultivate deep early in the season, and shallow later when the plants are larger.

POCKET GOPHERS ARE MENACE TO FARMERS

Neighborhood Party Plan Successful in Nebraska.

Eradication of Pests Difficult Unless All Farms in the Community Are Cleaned Up in One Campaign—Plan Outlined.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The neighborhood party idea has been successfully applied to gopher elimination in Furnas county, Nebraska, under the direction of a specialist of the biological survey and the extension agent in co-operative work of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State College of Agriculture.

The eradication of pocket gophers is very difficult unless all the farms in a district are cleaned up in one campaign. A district two or three miles long is selected by the county agent, and farmers in this district are invited to a gopher poisoning party. A full attendance is usually secured.

The morning session is given to a demonstration in cutting the bait and applying the poison. Sufficient bait is



Gopher Exterminators and a Few Victims.

prepared to supply the party for the day. In the afternoon, the party is divided into pairs, one person carrying the bait and placing it in the runways, while the other person uses a prod to locate and open the runways. The county agent or specialist spends some time with each pair, giving instructions. All the infested area represented by the farmers attending the "party" is covered and poison bait applied. In many cases a second day is required to complete the work, but all members of the party invariably stay with the job until it is finished.

In Furnas county the work has been confined to the alfalfa fields in the valley lands along three important streams, the Republican river, and the Beaver and the Sappa creeks. All last summer the farmers were constantly reminded of the importance of the work, and excellent results were obtained from the community field parties in the fall. In the campaign 2,506 acres were covered. Figuring the advantage to the farmers in being rid of pocket gophers as half a ton of alfalfa per acre, this area would mean 1,250 tons, or \$10,000 saved.

GIVE YOUR BEES NEEDED AIR

Reversible Bottom Board Furnishes Either Narrow or Wide Entrance as May Be Desired.

It is too much to ask of a hard working bee that it hang outside the hive during its hours of rest because the interior of the hive is too hot and poorly ventilated. "One remedy is to tip up the front of the hive one inch from the base board, using a tapering splinter or wedge under each side," says A. C. Burrell, extension entomologist of the Missouri College of Agriculture. "Or buy a reversible bottom board, which furnishes either narrow or wide entrance as desired. We do not advise setting the supers back a half-inch as this artificial ventilation interferes with the fanning bees. Keep your bees in a good shady location for the hot summer months."

SEVERAL DISEASES OF SOIL

Only Way to Overcome Fungous and Bacterial Ailments Is to Let Land Remain Idle.

There are several diseases of vegetables which live over in the garden soil from one year to the next, and if the same crop is planted in the same soil year after year it will be but a short time until the crop will prove a loss. These are mostly fungous and bacterial diseases and the only practical way to overcome them is to allow the land to lie idle for two or three years or to plant a crop which is immune to the disease.

SCATTER MANURE ON FIELDS

Not Advisable to Permit Escape of Gases and Plant Food—Haul Away Often.

Different farmers have different ways and means of caring for their barnyard manures, but suffice it to say, do not let it become exposed to the rain nor the sun; if possible, keep it piled up in order to prevent the escape of gases which are rich in plant food; as often as practicable, haul the manure to the fields, scatter and immediately plow it under.

TOOK ODD BELIEF FOR FACT

Description by Aristotle of Birds That Never Existed Makes Humorous Reading Today.

Aristotle was one of the greatest minds of all time. His philosophical deductions and reasoning powers have never been surpassed, but like many another great genius he often made the mistake of accepting common suppositions for truth. He was not himself an observer, and his dependence upon the observation of others often led him into ridiculous errors. He wrote in this fashion concerning the phoenix, a fabulous bird which never existed.

"The Ethiopians and Indians tell us of birds of varied coloring and indescribable; of the phoenix of Arabia, most noteworthy of all. It is described to be of the size of an eagle, with golden sheen about the neck but purple otherwise, varied with roseate feathers on a tail of blue, and with tufts beautifying the face and a feathery crown and head. Manlius says that in Arabia it is considered sacred to the sun and lives for 600 years. When it grows old it makes itself a nest of cassia and twigs of frankincense. In this it dies. Then from its bones and marrow is produced what seems a small worm, but it afterward becomes a chick."

Of the pelican he wrote: "When they find their young killed by a serpent they mourn and beat themselves upon their sides, and with the blood discharged they thus bring back to life the bodies of the dead."

ROCKS THAT PUZZLED DARWIN

Great Naturalist Could Offer No Explanation of Peculiar Land Off South American Coast.

To the average reader the name of St. Paul's Rocks is unfamiliar. The average geography and map make no mention of St. Paul's Rocks. They are, of course, uninhabited. The little known island or rather group, lies one degree above the equator and 540 miles off the coast of South America.

In the entire breadth of the Atlantic there is probably no land so remote. The Rocks measure only about 1,400 feet in length and some 700 feet in width. There is no harbor worth the name the only entrance being a narrow inlet but a few feet in width. As far as the records show, it has only been visited two or three times in the last 50 years.

The most famous visitor to the Rocks was, doubtless, Charles Darwin, who landed there and made minute investigations. His description of this visit is contained in his book on volcanic islands. Darwin decided after careful investigation that the Rocks were not of volcanic origin. They lie much too far south to have been a part of the fabulous continent of Atlantis. In his report Darwin says that the island was composed of rocks unlike any he had ever seen, and adds that he was unable to characterize them by any name.

Remarkable Mountain of Sand.

In the great desert regions of the Southwest there is a remarkable mountain of sand. The behavior of it mystified the early settlers who in the days of '49 followed the old trail from Yuma to Los Angeles. The mountain was constantly changing form. The first pioneers mentioned it to their friends as a landmark by which they might guide themselves on their way into the new country, but it changed its appearance so rapidly that many of them failed to recognize it, wandered from the trail and were lost in the desert.

People discovered later that it was the strong winds that from time to time sweep across the desert that made the mountain act in so queer a way. When the wind blew it shifted loose sand from one spot to another, built new domes and pinnacles and destroyed others, until within a short time the whole mountain presented an entirely new outline against the sky.

"A Little Learning."

One of the young women knew nothing about football and knew she knew nothing; the other knew nothing about football and thought she knew something. The result was that the couple caused endless amusement among the spectators sitting near them. When the girl who thought she knew something had given tons of inaccurate information to the girl who knew she didn't know much the latter pointed to the field and asked:

"What are those?"

"What, dear?" replied her companion. "Do you mean all those little figures?" They're men, of course."

"No, no! I mean those posts stuck in the ground."

And she pointed to the goal posts.

"Well, fancy you not knowing what they are!" exclaimed Miss Knowall. "Why, they're football fixtures!"

Peculiar Church "Ceremonies."

Since a Spanish play, produced at the Opera Comique, depicted dancing in churches Parisians believe that dancing in such establishments in Spain is quite fashionable, only they themselves would be against such attractions in France. Nevertheless there exists a church in France where one day in the year—Saint Marcel's day—dancing is allowed in the village church. At Barjols, they kill a calf and cook it in the church and eat it there. After the meal the choir makes way for a local orchestra, which hits up the liveliest fox trots and shimshies, and couples gayly whirl around a floor shorn of its pews and chairs.

WAS MARRIED TO BEST MAN

Odd Happening Recorded at Wedding—Bridegroom Willing to Allow Bride Time to Consider.

Not so long ago a strange error occurred at a church wedding. In some way the bridal party became confused and at the close of the ceremony it was discovered that the bride had been married to the best man. Further complications arose from the fact that the best man was already engaged to the bride's younger sister. The register had not yet been signed, and there was nothing for it but to perform the ceremony over again. The mistake had arisen through the best man undertaking to make the necessary response for the bridegroom, who was so nervous as to be unable to remember them himself. At a wedding which took place in a country village a few years ago the bridegroom, on being asked the customary question, "Will you take this woman to be thy wife?" scratched his head reflectively, and, turning to the bride, asked: "Will ye clean my boots?" The query was met in the affirmative, and the ceremony proceeded. A laughable incident once occurred at a village wedding. When the bride had reached the church she had forgotten her gloves, and flatly refused to be married without them, adding: "Be quick, lest I change my mind!" Two hours later the bridegroom was discovered seated in the local inn, calmly puffing away at a cigar, waiting, as he explained, to see if the bride really would change her mind.

CROMWELL HAD LIGHTER SIDE

Incident Recorded of Him Seems to Prove That He Could Enjoy a Practical Joke.

It is told of Oliver Cromwell, the English leader and soldier, that he had a great love of fun, which he would indulge often at the expense of others, according to the impulse of the moment. An example of this trait is shown in the following incident. Cromwell had a very beautiful daughter, and at the time he came into power in England one of his attendants took a fancy to this young lady. One day Cromwell went into his daughter's room and was surprised to see his page on his knees making a declaration of his love to his daughter. "What does this mean?" demanded Cromwell.

"May it please your worship," stammered the frightened page, "I am in love with yonder waiting maid"—pointing to her as he spoke—"and I have been beseeching your daughter to use her influence in my behalf."

"Are you willing," said Cromwell to the waiting maid, "to have this fellow for your husband?"

"Yes," she answered. "Well, then," said Cromwell, we'll have a minister called in and you two shall be married immediately, and it was no sooner said than done.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Punishment.

She was only three years old, but she was very vain. After all, age has little to do with vanity.

Her governess found her the most difficult of the three children to manage, and the whole family was surprised when they discovered that the young girl who was hired to wheel the baby out in the park could manage her as easily as if she were a model child.

"How do you do it?" the mother asked one day.

The girl smiled. "She's easy enough to handle," she said. "Made-moiselle always tries to reason with her. That doesn't do any good, because she just turns unthinking ears to her. But when I have her out, if she won't behave, I just take her little curls and tuck them away up under her hat so no one can see them. Then in about two minutes she'll promise to be just as good as gold if I'll only pull them out again."

Books Centuries Old.

Some of England's oldest art treasures, from Durham cathedral's monastic library, were recently brought to London and placed on view at the Victoria and Albert museum. Most of the work in northern English of the earlier Anglo-Irish schools of Lindisfarne and Durham, and the examples of calligraphy and illumination range in dates from the Seventh to the Fourteenth century. Among the manuscripts are two traditionally attributed in the Middle Ages to the venerable Bede, but this ascription is not now accepted. There are, also, several of the books given to the monastery by the Bishops William de St. Carleph (1080-1096) and Hugh de Pulset (Pudsey) 1154-1195. Three of the four volumes of Pudsey's Bible, as one of the most splendid in existence, are included in the exhibit.

A Word for Mothers-in-Law.

A Pennsylvania preacher blames mothers-in-law for 75 per cent of the matrimonial disasters and refers to them as "mother-out-laws." We venture to say mothers-in-law and fathers-in-law have done more to prevent matrimonial shipwrecks than all the law and the gospels, asserts Capper's Weekly. The old folks know the reefs and how to steer by them, and they wish the young folks to have a prosperous and reasonably happy voyage. Mothers-in-law and fathers-in-law are the beacon lights of the matrimonial sea. They shine on every dangerous shore and certainly the world never had greater need for them than at present.